

I support retention of the public airways in the hands of the public, and not transferred to greedy corporate hands.

I am writing to you as a lifetime newspaper reader, a long-time publicradio listener and a multi-channel television viewer. I have lived in several cities and states in this country from the east to the west coasts. During these years I have enjoyed the divergent reporting of the local media of Boston, Chicago, the San Francisco Bay area, and now Albuquerque, New Mexico. I also write to you as social science teacher and public advocate, whose lifetime has been devoted to the teaching and advocacy of democracy.

It is an obscene threat to democracy to have the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules that protect local and diverse media ownership be in jeopardy. The airwaves belong to the public. They should not go to the highest bidder, but to a diverse and local body of owners so that all the voices of our country are heard, and all opinions are able to be expressed and debated in local and national media arenas.

I wonder if any of you have seen the excellent broadcast of the Peabody Awards on cable TV yesterday, 5/25. I wonder, too, if any of the excellent investigative programs recognized there would have been possible if your proposed rule change had currently been in effect. You owe it to the people you serve to review this program and to then determine that the public is best served by not revoking these rules.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Sabie
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